

Florence County Rebate Program | Hybrid Vehicle - \$500

County Council Resolution No. 11-2008/09

General Eligibility Requirements:

- purchaser must live in Florence County;
- the vehicle must be registered in Florence County;
- the vehicle must be purchased new; purchaser is the original owner;
- the vehicle must be purchased in Florence County;
- the vehicle must be purchased after March 2, 2009;
- the vehicle must utilize a hybrid electric/gas engine system (hybrid vehicle, an electric vehicle, a plug-in hybrid vehicle);
- a copy of the proof of sale must be submitted and verified;
- a copy of the registration must be submitted;
- the purchaser completes this application legibly;
- the purchaser meets all these requirements and applies for this rebate before all funds are expended;
- purchaser must provide Florence County with all requested information.

1. Who can apply?

This is a first-come, first-served Program. Any Florence County resident who meets the eligibility criteria of the Program can apply for a rebate. The maximum rebate per person is \$500 until a total of \$20,000 is expended by the Program.

2. How do I apply?

To apply for a rebate you will need to read and complete the application which is available through:

- Automobile dealerships;
- By calling (843) 676-8600 and requesting an application form be mailed or e-mailed to you;
- Stopping by the County Planning Office at 518 South Irby Street, Florence – (entrance to the rear of the building).
- Find the application online at www.florenceco.org/planning
- Request an application by e-mail to Ms. Debi Matthews, dmatthews@florenceco.org

3. What model years are eligible for the rebate?

The list of eligible 2008 and 2009 hybrid vehicles purchased after March 2, 2009 is available.

4. How long do I have to submit my application?

Applications must be received before funds are allocated. Pre-purchase applications may be submitted to determine eligibility and to reserve a rebate for fifteen (15) calendar days. Rebate applications must be submitted within thirty (30) days following vehicle purchase.

5. When can I expect rebate payments to be issued?

Application forms will be assessed in the order in which they are received. Every effort will be made to process applications as efficiently as possible. Information regarding the status of applications can be obtained by calling 843 676-8600. Please expect a three week timeframe for check delivery.

6. I am a business, can I get the rebate?

Currently, this pilot program is open to County residents and businesses registering their new vehicle.

7. I bought my car before March 2, 2009, is it eligible?

Only vehicles appearing on the list that are purchased after March 2, 2009 will be considered for a rebate.

8. Why has Florence County proposed this rebate program?

Florence County proposed the rebate program to help consumers help the environment, promote air quality improvement initiatives and to promote public discussion and awareness of challenges to air quality.

9. What is the vehicle identification number?

Your car's vehicle identification number (VIN) is the unique identifying code for your own automobile. It is your car's fingerprint. It sets your vehicle apart from all other vehicles. Currently the VIN consists of 17 digit characters. It displays a car's uniqueness and manufacturer and provides a method to trace your car from the factory to the scrappage yard. Your VIN can be used to track recalls, registrations, warranty claims, thefts and insurance coverage.

The VIN number would normally be on your purchase or long term lease agreement. You could also find it on your vehicle. Common locations of the VIN on the vehicle vary but the following are places to look:

- Firewall of the vehicle
- Left hand inner wheel arch
- Steering column
- Radiator Support Bracket
- Dash by windshield
- Drivers door or post on passenger side
- Guarantee & Maintenance Book (vehicle documents)
- Machined Pad on front of engine
- Component parts as listed above – e.g. engine, frame, etc.

10. Is the rebate taxable?

Please contact the IRS for tax implications.

11. I won an eligible vehicle through a contest; can I apply for the rebate?

If you have won an eligible vehicle through a contest, lottery or other giveaway event, you would not be eligible for the rebate.

12. I bought an eligible vehicle in another County; can I apply for the rebate?

Only vehicles purchased in Florence County after March 2, 2009 are eligible for the rebate program.

13. I bought an eligible vehicle but it was used by the dealer as a demonstrator. Can I apply for the rebate on a demonstrator?

For the purposes of this rebate program, dealer demonstrators will be considered new vehicles and therefore eligible for the rebate. Please ensure that your dealer clearly identifies the vehicle as a demonstrator on the sales or lease agreement. Please retain your sales agreement, along with the VIN and a proof of County registration.

14. I purchased a new car for my son/daughter; can I apply for the rebate?

The rebate can only be paid to the registered owner of the vehicle. As such, the applicant name and the registrant of the vehicle must be the same in order to receive the rebate. If the vehicle is registered to your son/daughter then they would have to apply in order to receive the rebate.

15. My vehicle is registered to my business/place of work; can I apply for the rebate?

The rebate can only be paid to the registered owner of the vehicle. As such, the applicant name and the registrant must be the same in order to receive the rebate.

16. My vehicle has two registered owners. Can I still apply for the rebate?

Applications with dual registrants can be submitted as follows:

- Both owners/registrants apply on one form; both names and both signatures are required. The rebate check will be made payable in both names: or
- One of the registered owners may apply. The rebate check will be made payable to the applicant who applies first.

17. When does the Program end?

Applicants can apply for the rebate on eligible model-year vehicles purchased from March 2, 2009 up to when funds are expended or July 1, 2009 unless extended by Florence County Council into the next fiscal year's (July 1 - June 30) budget. This rebate program is a first-come, first-served program that will end when funds or time are exhausted.

18. What if my application is denied?

An applicant whom is denied a rebate and believes a rebate should have been awarded must contact the Planning Director for an appeal within three (3) days of the denial. The Planning Director will have three (3) working days to provide a decision. If the applicant remains unsatisfied, an appeal may be made to the County Administrator for the final decision. The Administrator will have ten (10) calendar days to review and issue a decision.

(Note: This document serves as the administrative procedures for this rebate program)

